

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KHARTO 03362 250907Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
IO-13 ICA-11 COME-00 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-10
NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
HA-05 PA-01 TRSY-02 /104 W
-----045408 252049Z /70

R 250830Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7952
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 3362

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PDEV, SU
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF FOOD SHORTAGE IN SOUTHERN SUDAN

REF: KHARTOUM 3336 NOTAL

1. ANNUAL FOOD SHORTAGE IN SOUTHERN SUDAN HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED THIS YEAR BY POORLY-TIMED RAINS LAST GROWING SEASON: RAINS FELL TOO LATE FOR GOOD PLANTING AND TOO EARLY FOR SUCCESSFUL HARVEST. ANNUAL FOOD SHORTAGE IS BASICALLY CAUSED BY ABSOLUTE LACK OF MOBILITY WHEN RAINS SWAMP PRIMITIVE ROADS. DISAGREEMENT EXISTS AMONG KNOWLEDGEABLE SUDANESE ON DEGREE TO WHICH FOOD SHORTAGE IS EXTRAORDINARY, BUT NO RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL WANTS TO ADMIT THAT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IS ESSENTIAL.

2. BAHR AL GHAZAL COMMISSIONER VISITED KHARTOUM LAST APRIL TO REQUEST EMERGENCY FOOD SHIPMENTS FROM VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KHARTO 03362 250907Z

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE BONA MALWAL RING TELEPHONED SUDAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (SCCL TO SUPPORT REQUEST. HOWEVER, BONA BACKED OFF WHEN ASKED TO OBTAIN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT THAT POTENTIAL FAMINE CONDITIONS EXISTED AND SCC REFUSED TO ACT WITHOUT SUCH CONCURRENCE FROM SUDANGOV. GERMAN AMBASSADOR TOURED SOUTHERN REGION IN JUNE IN COMPANY

WITH VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND RETURNED WITH DETAILED REPORT OF EXTENSIVE FOOD SHORTAGES DATED MAY 16 AND PREPARED BY SOUTHERN REGIONAL MINISTER OF INTERIOR. GERMAN AMBASSADOR WROTE ON JULY 10 THAT MINSTATE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FRANCIS DENG, HIMSELF A SOUTHERNER, HAD ASSURED HIM THAT "FAMINE PROBLEM HAD BEEN OVERCOME" FOR TIME BEING WITH SUDAN RESOURCES. WHEN MINISTER OF DEFENSE RAISED FOOD SHORTAGE WITH DAO JULY 23, HE CITED PRESSURE FROM NIMEIRI'S OFFICE (FROM BONA MALWAL?) BUT ALSO BACKED OFF FROM DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY WHEN ASKED. SUDAN INTERIOR MISSION (SIM) HAS CHARTERED DC-3 FROM SUGAR COMPANY TO FLY GRAIN TO WORST AFFECTED AREAS OF SOUTHERN REGION ON JULY 24. CHARTER IS COSTING \$40-50,000 AND CANNOT BE REPEATED. GRAIN IS FROM SUDANGOV ALLOCATED FOR SUCH EMERGENCIES. OTHER VOLUNTARY

AGENCIES ARE NOT TAKING EXTRAORDINARY ACTION AND, IN FACT, KEY PERSONNEL ARE NOT IN KHARTOUM.

3. RECENTLY ELECTED SOUTHERN REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION BEGAN

TERM OF OFFICE LAST FEBRUARY WITH MANY PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS OF MORE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND IN PARTICULAR PROMISE OF DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENTS IN FOOD AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, SOUTHERN LEADERS HAVE NOT ACHIEVED MUCH SUCCESS. BECAUSE OF POWER, FUEL AND FOOD SHORTAGES IN JUBA, MANY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KHARTO 03362 250907Z

OF THE SOUTHERN POLITICIANS ARE IN KHARTOUM MUCH OF THE TIME, CITING LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS IN JUBA, SUDAN AIRWAYS RESUMED FLIGHTS TO JUBA FOLLOWING THE MARCH-APRIL

SCHEDULE BUT ONLY THREE TIMES A WEEK INSTEAD OF DAILY, AND OFTEN FLIES HALF EMPTY DESPITE LONG WAITING LIST OF PASSENGERS. MERRICK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FOOD SHORTAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KHARTO03362
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780305-0480
Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780724/aaaaauaf.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a1c2676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KHARTOUM 3336
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1898246
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTS OF FOOD SHORTAGE IN SOUTHERN SUDAN
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PDEV, SU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1c2676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014